

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES  
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
ROOM 113  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1999  
2:30 P.M.**

Commissioners Present: Kathy Campbell, Chair  
Bob Workman  
Linda Steinman  
Bernie Heier

Commissioners Absent: Larry Hudkins

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Dave Johnson, Deputy County Attorney  
Bruce Medcalf, County Clerk  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy County Clerk  
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

**AGENDA ITEM**

**1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 1999**

**MOTION:** Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes dated August 26, 1999. On call Steinman, Heier, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

**2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- a. Letter to Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice John Hendry Regarding Indigency Screener
- b. Billboard Committee

**MOTION:** Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval of the additions to the agenda. On call Steinman, Heier, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

**3 PROCEDURES FOR PLACEMENT OF YOUTH IN ALTERNATIVE FACILITIES** - Dennis Banks, Attention Center Director; Michelle Schindler, Attention Center Deputy Director; Mike Thurber, Corrections Director; Dave Johnson, Deputy County Attorney

Dave Johnson, Deputy County Attorney, briefly reviewed *Procedures for Placement of Youth in an Alternative Facility* (Commissioners' Information Packet). He explained the Attention Center Director will contact representatives of Corrections, County Attorney's Office and the County Commissioners office if a youth meets the following criteria:

- \* Sixteen years of age or older
- \* Formally charged with a felony in adult court
- \* Represents an extreme risk of escape or significant threat to the life and safety of others or the safe and secure operation of the Attention Center facility

These individuals will then meet to review pertinent information with regards to the youth, including court status, and a decision will be made with regards to placement. In the event a consensus decision is not reached, the County Board of Commissioners will direct placement.

In response to a question from Heier, Dennis Banks, Attention Center Director, stated the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act restricts placement in an adult facility to youth at least sixteen years of age who are charged with a felony.

Michelle Schindler, Attention Center Deputy Director, added that youth under sixteen years of age who are charged with violent felonies may be placed in other youth detention facilities.

Banks noted a contingency fund may be necessary to address these costs.

Campbell said the Board plans to monitor costs.

**MOTION:** Steinman moved and Heier seconded to adopt the Procedures for Placement of Youth in Alternative Facilities, with the provision that the County Board will revisit the issue once the new Juvenile Detention Facility is built.

In response to a question from Eagan, the Chair ruled that it was appropriate for the Board to take action at the administrative level.

**ON CALL:** Steinman, Heier, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

**4 CONTRACT WITH SHERYL SCHREPF, FAMILIES FIRST & FOREMOST GRANT DIRECTOR; COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY VALDEEN NELSON, CENTERPOINTE, IN FACILITATION OF ASSESSMENT CENTER DISCUSSIONS - Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator**

Contract with Sheryl Schrepf, Families First & Foremost Grant Director

Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, reported that Sheryl Schrepf, Families First & Foremost Grant Director, can continue to purchase benefits through St. Monica's Women's Substance Abuse Treatment Programs. She recommended the contract with Schrepf include \$60,000 for salary and purchase of benefits.

Boesch reported that Denise Bulling, Community Mental Health Center, has expressed interest in the Assistant Grant Director position. She suggested that Bulling request a leave of absence from her current position, with the project reimbursing the County for her salary. Boesch added that Bulling could assume the director's position after one year, with the project's direction determining whether she would remain a County employee. She asked whether Bulling would be able to retain her County benefits if she accepted the Assistant Grant Director position, as outlined.

Heier questioned the logistics and financial impact of filling Bulling's position during her leave of absence.

The Board requested a County Attorney's Opinion on the matter. Once a legal opinion is rendered, Eagan and Boesch will meet with Bulling; Bill Bonacker, Community Mental Health Center Interim Director; Dave Johnson, Deputy County Attorney; and a representative of the Personnel Department to discuss the impact of such a transfer.

Boesch also reported that the contract for clerical and financial support will be with St. Monica's.

Compensation for Services Rendered by Valdeen Nelson, Centerpointe, in Facilitation of Assessment Center Discussions

Boesch suggested the Board award a stipend of \$150 and a restaurant gift certificate to Valdeen Nelson, Centerpointe, in recognition of her facilitation of Assessment Center discussions. (This would amount to \$50 per session.)

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Steinman seconded approval.

Eagan said a contract for her services would be more appropriate.

The maker and seconder of the motion withdrew their motion.

**MOTION:** Steinman moved and Heier seconded to develop a contract to pay Valdeen Nelson, Centerpointe, for her services as facilitator in Assessment Center discussions. On call Steinman, Heier, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

**5 ADD PARALEGAL IN COUNTY ATTORNEY'S CHILD SUPPORT DIVISION - Gary Lacey, Lancaster County Attorney**

Gary Lacey, Lancaster County Attorney, presented a handout detailing the caseload for paralegals in the County Attorney's Office (Exhibit B), noting response time delays with the Children Have a Right to Support (CHARTS) system have created a significant case backlog.

In response to a question from Steinman, Lacey stated State takeover of child support collection is not recommended.

Campbell informed Lacey that the Board took action at the August 26<sup>th</sup> County Board Staff Meeting to relay concern that the County is incurring additional expense as a result of problems with the CHARTS system to the Governor's Office and to authorize hiring of a temporary paralegal position, from the County Attorney's Budget, with a review of the staffing situation at mid-year.

Campbell suggested that a meeting with Lori McClurg, Governor's Office, and the State Data Processing Division's Project Manager for CHARTS be requested.

The Board concurred with Campbell's suggestion.

**6 COUNTY SPECIAL PERMIT NO. 169, DIAMOND HEAD DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, GOLF COURSE & CLUBHOUSE, NORTHWEST 140<sup>TH</sup> STREET & WEST HOLDREGE STREET - Mike DeKalb, Planning Department**

Mike DeKalb, Planning Department, briefly reviewed County Special Permit 169, a request to locate an 18 hole golf course and clubhouse at Northwest 140<sup>th</sup> Street and West Holdrege Street (Exhibit A). He noted opposition to the proposal is focused primarily on water quantity and/or quality and traffic concerns. DeKalb reported that the Planning Commission disagreed with the Planning Staff's recommendation of conditional approval and voted unanimously to recommend denial, as it felt the applicant had not met the burden of proof to show that use of water for the golf course will not adversely affect existing wells in the neighboring area.

DeKalb said the applicant has requested the following amendments to site specific conditions:

- \* Commercial use for the golf course (Inclusion of a restaurant in the clubhouse will require use of a lagoon, rather than a septic fields)
- \* Applicant can't guarantee acquisition of right-of-way on West Holdrege and Northwest 140<sup>th</sup> Street, but will work with the County Engineer on upgrading and paving of the roads

DeKalb noted that the applicant also objects to upgrading West Holdrege on the Seward County side, although this could be made a condition of the special permit.

DeKalb reported that a County Attorney's Opinion, requested by the Planning Commission, states denial of a special permit should be based upon a finding that granting the permit would effect the health, safety and welfare of the community. It also advises against imposing conditions that would require the applicant to remedy any future water quantity/quality problems neighboring property owners might experience as a result of the golf course's irrigation wells, as such conditions would be difficult to enforce.

Workman questioned the validity of stream flow assumptions in a report from Nickel Engineering, Inc.

DeKalb recommended that the Board carefully review the information and testimony submitted by the engineering and well drilling companies and the anecdotal testimony of neighboring property owners in preparation for the public hearing on September 7<sup>th</sup>, as there are very different points of view on the groundwater.

Steinman asked whether regulation of groundwater is possible.

DeKalb stated reasonable limitations on use of groundwater could be included in the special permit conditions.

In response to a question from Workman, J Michael Rierden, attorney representing the applicant, appeared and explained that three wells currently exist on the site - two 12 gpm (gallons per minute) domestic use wells and one 350 gpm well used for irrigation. In addition, one 400+ gpm test well was drilled.

**7 DIRECTORS SALARIES** - Georgia Glass, Personnel Director; John Cripe, Classification & Pay Manager

John Cripe, Classification & Pay Manager, reviewed a recent wage survey of the market for appointed Directors (Exhibit C).

The Board tentatively approved the following:

	<u>Director</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Percentage of Increase</u>
*	Veterans Service Officer	\$40,000	8.6
*	Assistant Veterans Service Officer	\$30,000	10.7
*	Nursing Home Administrator	\$86,000	3.0
*	Community Mental Health Administrator	Vacant	
*	Attention Center Director	\$60,000	9.1
*	Assistant Attention Center Director	\$48,000	9.0
*	Chief Administrative Officer	\$80,000	10.0
*	Budget & Fiscal Officer	\$72,000	9.0
*	Building Administrator	\$75,000	7.1
*	Human Services Administrator	\$55,000	6.7
*	Corrections Director	\$72,000	8.2
*	Noxious Weed Control Administrator	\$44,000	7.3
*	Emergency Services Coordinator	\$52,000	4.0

The Board scheduled final review of directors' salaries on the agenda for the September 9<sup>th</sup> County Board Staff Meeting.

The Board requested the Personnel Department to provide an updated *Director Salary Information* spreadsheet (Exhibit D) prior to that meeting, and that it include columns defining years of education, years in profession and number of full-time equivalents supervised.

## **8 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT**

- a. Griffin Grant Writing & Consulting, Inc.

Eagan said a decision needs to be made on whether to proceed with a contract with Griffin Grant Writing & Consulting, Inc. for assistance with writing federal grants. He agreed to check on whether the City is interested in participating in a contract and will report back to the Board.

- b. Letter from Georgia Glass, Personnel Director, Regarding Cross-Jurisdictional Compensation

Campbell said the Personnel Director has requested authorization to form a small committee to look at the issue of cross-jurisdictional compensation in the merger of City and County operations (Commissioners' Information Packet).

The Board authorized the Personnel Director to proceed and requested that Dave Kroeker, Budget & Fiscal Officer, serve on the committee.

- c. Response to Melva Plouzek's Letter Regarding Wilderness Park

Eagan indicated that he had drafted a letter of response to Plouzek.

## **9 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS**

- a. Public Building Commission - Campbell, Hudkins

Campbell reported that a special meeting was held to authorize the City Council and County Board to place consideration of property at 809 "H" Street on their respective agendas. Selection of chairs for courtrooms in the Justice and Law Enforcement Center was also made.

Campbell reported that Dave Patrick has resigned from the Public Building Commission, due to health reasons, and Linda Wilson, former City Council member, was named his replacement.

- b. General Assistance Monitoring Committee - Campbell, Steinman

Item deferred.

- c. Register of Deeds Technology Enhancement Committee - Hudkins, Workman

Item deferred.

- d. Human Services Needs Assessment Executive Committee - Campbell, Steinman

Item deferred.

## ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. Letter to Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice John Hendry Regarding Indigency Screener

Item deferred.

- b. Billboard Task Force

Workman presented copies of *The Culmination of the Work of the Billboard Task Force* (Exhibit E), noting it is the Task Force's recommendation that the County adopt these regulations as well.

## ADJOURNMENT

By direction of the Chair, the meeting was adjourned.

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Bruce Medcalf  
Lancaster County Clerk